

Message Text

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SECDEF WASHDC

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ALL NATO CAPITALS

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

USLOSACLT NORFOLK VA

CINCUSAFFE RAMSTEIN AB GER

USNMR SHAPE BE

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, NATO, MILI

SUBJECT: PERIODIC ARMAMENTS PLANNING SYSTEM (PAPS)

REF: AC/259-N/244 DATED JULY 26, 1977

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SUMMARY: THE TELEGRAM FORWARDS MISSION COMMENTS ON THE REPORT OF THE CNAD AD HOC STUDY GROUP ON PAPS AND RECOMMENDS WASHINGTON APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED PROGRAM DEVELOPED BY THE STUDY GROUP. END SUMMARY.

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1. THE REFERENCE PROMULGATES THE REPORT OF THE CNAD AD HOC STUDY GROUP ON A PERIODIC ARMAMENTS PLANNING SYSTEM (PAPS), AND HAS BEEN POUCED TO WASHINGTON. THE REPORT FOCUSES ON WHAT HAS COME TO BE CALLED PAPS, PHASE I, AND ADDRESSES ITSELF EXCLUSIVELY TO ESTABLISHING A COMMON PROCEDURE WHICH COULD IDENTIFY NATO NEEDS AND POSSIBILITIES FOR, OR PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH, INCREASED STANDARDIZATION AND/OR

INTEROPERABILITY. THE COMMON PROCEDURE PROPOSED BY THE STUDY GROUP IS CALLED A NATO ARMAMENTS PLANNING REVIEW (NAPR) IN ORDER THAT THE TITLE MORE ACCURATELY REFLECT THE PROCEDURES RECOMMENDED, I.E. A REVIEW OF NATIONAL ARMAMENTS PLANNING TO SEE THAT THIS PLANNING MEETS THE NATO NEEDS FOR INTEROPERABILITY OR STANDARDIZATION OF EQUIPMENT.

2. THE OBJECTIVE OF THE NAPR IS TO ESTABLISH A COMMON PROCEDURE TO IMPROVE MILITARY EFFECTIVENESS AND THE UTILIZATION OF DEFENSE RESOURCES BY:

-- (1) IDENTIFYING, CREATING AND/OR EXPLOITING AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY, PROSPECTS FOR STANDARDIZATION (SPECIFICALLY THROUGH CO-PRODUCTION OR JOINT PROCUREMENT OF ARMAMENTS) OR INTEROPERABILITY;

-- (2) ENSURING THAT WHERE STANDARDIZATION IS JUDGED UNDESIRABLE, OR NOT ACHIEVABLE, POSSIBILITIES FOR INTEROPERABILITY ARE FOLLOWED UP;

-- (3) PROVIDING GUIDANCE TO NATO GROUPS WORKING IN THE ARMAMENTS FIELD.

3. THE NAPR WILL BE CONCERNED WITH THE COMPILATION OF NATIONAL SCHEDULES. THE NATIONAL SCHEDULES WILL BE NATO-IZED BY THE NMAS WHO, REFERRING TO THE EQUIPMENTS LISTED, CONFIDENTIAL

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WILL INDICATE WHERE, AND FOR WHAT REASONS, INTEROPERABILITY OR STANDARDIZATION IS NECESSARY. ANALYSIS OF THE SCHEDULES IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE NMA INPUT SHOULD REVEAL: (1) OPPORTUNITIES FOR WIDER STANDARDIZATION THROUGH COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT, OR PROCUREMENT OF COMMON EQUIPMENT; (2) PROGRAMS WHERE ACTION IS NEEDED TO PROVIDE INTEROPERABILITY; (3) AREAS WHERE STANDARDIZATION IS INHIBITED BY DIVERGENCE OF NATIONAL PLANS.

4. THE OPPORTUNITIES IDENTIFIED BY THE ANALYSIS AND A LIST OF DIVERGENT NATIONAL PLANS WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL ARMAMENTS DIRECTORS (CNAD). THE CNAD WILL REFER THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR POSSIBLE COOPERATION TO THE MAIN ARMAMENTS GROUPS (MAGS) FOR DETAILED EXAMINATION. THE MAGS WILL REVIEW PROJECTS AND ADVISE: (1) THE VALIDITY OF THE OPPORTUNITY/PROBLEM IDENTIFIED; (2) PROSPECTS FOR ACHIEVING SUGGESTED STANDARDIZATION OR THE REQUIRED LEVEL OF INTEROPERABILITY; (3) ACTION NEEDED TO ACHIEVE THE SUGGESTED STANDARDIZATION OR LEVEL OF INTEROPERABILITY. AT THE SAME TIME, THE ARMAMENTS DIRECTORS WILL CONSIDER WHETHER, IN THE FUTURE, THEIR NATIONAL PLANS CAN BE ALIGNED MORE CLOSELY WITH THEIR ALLIES' PLANS

IN THOSE AREAS WHERE STANDARDIZATION IS INHIBITED BY
DIVERGENCE OF PROGRAMS.

5. COMMENT: WE RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE PROCEDURES
DEVELOPED BY THE STUDY GROUP AND INTRODUCTION OF THEM ON A
TRIAL BASIS. WE BELIEVE THE PROPOSED NAPR IS A NECESSARY
FIRST STEP IN BRINGING THE ALLIANCE CLOSER TO A SYSTEMATIC
PROCESS OF RATIONALIZING ARMAMENTS DEVELOPMENT AND PRO-
CUREMENT BECAUSE IT:

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A. RECOGNIZES THAT INTEROPERABILITY IS A MORE REALIZABLE
NEAR-TERM GOAL THAN STANDARDIZATION, BUT, AT THE SAME
TIME, PROVIDES PROCEDURES WHICH COVER BOTH;

B. INTRODUCES MORE CONTROL OVER THE MAGS BY THE CNAD;
PRESENT AUTONOMY OF THE MAGS TENDS TO CAUSE THEM TO FOCUS
ON LESS ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENTS SIMPLY BECAUSE AN OPPORTUNITY
FOR A COOPERATIVE PROJECT EMERGES; NAPR PUTS THE CNAD BACK

INTO THE ARENA AND FOCUSES THE MAG EFFORT ON THE IDENTIFIED HIGH PRIORITY AREAS;

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C. ACKNOWLEDGES THAT NATO SHOULD GO BEYOND THE PROPOSED REVIEW PROCEDURES AND INCORPORATE THEM INTO A POSSIBLE PERIODIC ARMAMENTS PLANNING SYSTEM, LEADING ULTIMATELY TO COORDINATED NATO DEFENSE EQUIPMENT PLANNING;

D. LOOKS OUT 10-15 YEARS IN THE PREPARATION OF EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT SCHEDULES;

E. CALLS FOR AN NMA ASSESSMENT OF WHICH AREAS HAVE THE MOST URGENT NEED FOR STANDARDIZATION OR INTEROPERABILITY AND TO WHAT DEGREE;

F. PULLS DISPARATE NATIONAL PROGRAMS INTO SOME RATIONAL PATTERN FOR ANALYSIS AND COORDINATION;

G. PROPOSES A PROCEDURE TO ENHANCE OPPORTUNITIES FOR COOPERATION.

6. THE UNRESOLVED ISSUES CONTAINED IN SECTION V, PARAGRAPHS 28 AND 29, APPEAR ON THE SURFACE TO BE UNCONTENTIOUS, VIZ. THE METHOD OF COLLATING AND PUBLISHING THE EQUIPMENT SCHEDULES, AND INVOLVEMENT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON EQUIPMENT INTEROPERABILITY. (IN PARA 28A, FOR "COUNTER VIEW" READ FRENCH. IN PARA 28B, FOR "ONE NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE" READ US (STATE 013138 DTG 192350Z JAN 77 REFERS).) WE BELIEVE THE TWO ISSUES INVOLVED SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT PREVENT INTRODUCTION AT THIS TIME OF THE PROCEDURES ON AN EXPERIMENTAL BASIS AS RECOMMENDED. ADDITIONALLY, WE BELIEVE THAT THE US COULD RELINQUISH ITS STAND ON AD HOC COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT, MAKING CLEAR THAT, BY SO DOING, THE US HAS NOT CONCEDED THAT THE AD HOC COMMITTEE WILL CEASE TO EXIST. SINCE THE CNAD IS A COMMITTEE OF THE NAC, THE NAC RETAINS FINAL ENDORSEMENT OF CNAD RECOMMENDATIONS AND CAN INTERVENE IN POLICY MATTERS

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AND POLITICAL PROBLEM AREAS IF REQUIRED. WITH RESPECT TO FRENCH CONCERN ON THE POLITICAL IDENTITY AND CONTROL OF THE IEPG, WE RECOMMEND WASHINGTON INVESTIGATE, ON A BILATERAL BASIS, TO WHAT EXTENT THE FRENCH POSITION IS IRREVERSIBLE. END COMMENT.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE BY AUGUST 31,
1977, ON THE ACCEPTABILITY OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS
CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPH 9 OF THE SUMMARY OF THE STUDY
GROUP'S REPORT. PEREZ

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